



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL
INSPECTIONS
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 372
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
<http://sbc.lacounty.gov>**

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

10:00 AM

AUDIO LINK FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (13-4922)

Attachments: [AUDIO](#)

Present: Chairperson Eleanor R. Montañó, Vice Chairperson Frank S. Bacio, Commissioner Barbara Bigby, Commissioner Cheryl Grills Ph.D., Commissioner Donald S. Andrews, Commissioner Susan Burton and Commissioner Maxine Russell M.A., M.S.

Excused: Commissioner Anne S. Hill

Staff present: Nyla Jefferson and Jenny Kimbell

Call to Order. (13-4566)

Chairperson Montañó called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Chairperson Montañó led in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence. Commissioners Grills and Bigby joined the meeting at 10:07 a.m. respectively.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER

1. Approval of the October 9, 2013 Minutes. (13-4846)

On motion of Commissioner Donald Andrews, seconded by Commissioner Susan Burton and unanimously carried, the minutes of October 9, 2013 were approved.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DCOUMENT](#)

II. REPORTS

2. Department Representatives Reports for October 16, 2013.

- Department of Auditor-Controller
 - Monthly Report
- Department of Mental Health
 - Monthly Report
- Internal Services Department
 - Monthly Report
- Sheriff's Department
 - Monthly Report
- Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS)
 - Monthly Report
 - Discussion regarding the inspection and findings at Little People World.
- Probation Department
 - Monthly Report
 - Discussion regarding the inspection and findings at Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall. (13-4699)

Auditor-Controller (AC)

Ms. Michele Day, A C, Group Home Ombudsman, distributed the copies and reported on the Children's Group Home Ombudsman Activity Report for the month of September 2013 as follows:

17 Total calls related to Collaboration Contacts/Referrals/Information:

- **Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) - 5**
 - **Group Home - 2**
 - **Department of Mental Health - 2**
 - **Orange County Children Services - 1**
 - **Probation Ombudsman - 1**
 - **General Information - 5**
 - **Community Care Licensing - 1**
- **2 Personal Rights**
 - **Living Condition – 1**
 - **Health/Med, Dental, Psych Care (Project 6) – 1**
- **2 Personal**
 - **Discipline (Rosemary's) – 1**

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- Fear, Threats, Intimidation, Isolation (McKinley) – 1
 - Case Social Worker Related Issues (David & Margaret (2), Penny Lane) – 3
 - Sibling Separation Concern (Rosemary's) – 1
 - 13 total Visits/Outreach
 - Luvlee's Residential Care/New Dawn (2 sites)
 - Heritage Group Homes (2 sites)
 - Leroy Haynes
 - Bright horizon/Garces
 - Rosemary Children's Services (5 sites)
 - Mary's Shelter (2 sites)

Ms. Day also reported that during the visit to Rosemary's they had the opportunity to discuss some issues with 30 of the residents. The concerns were reported to DCFS and pending investigation. Additionally, Ms. Day shared a sample of the posters that are being prepared to make the youth aware of the Ombudsman information hotline.

Department of Mental Health (DMH)

Commissioner Burton expressed concern regarding Little People World group home. Ms. Burton informed DMH that when she inspected the group home, the Needs and Services Plans (NSP's) revealed that five out of six youth ranging from ages 6-12 were prescribed very serious psychotropic medications, several of which were the same medication (similar dosages) from the same doctor. Ms. Burton also stated that they reviewed the court order; however, there was no indication of plans to wean the children off of any of these medications.

Ms. Stroupe, Mental Health Clinical Supervisor, reiterated on the previous email that was sent to the Commission that DMH does not have a business relationship with Little People World group home and because medications are court ordered, she advised the Commissioners to speak with the youth's case social worker to address the court along with the youth for prescription inquiries.

Commissioner Grills stated that children receiving medication of the sorts have become a national issue and there is no documentation to

state the reason why youth are on the same medication for such a long period of time.

Ms. Rhonda David-Shirley, DCFS, stated that she will contact the Office of Medical Director who is responsible for monitoring youth on psychotropic medications, dosages administered, psychiatrist credentials to prescribe medication, treatment plans, psychiatric monthly visits, and modifications to dosage as a follow-up to Commissioners Grills and Burton's inspection report. She will report back to the Commission.

Internal Services Department (ISD)

Vice Chairperson Bacio reported that he, Commissioners Grills and Bigby inspected Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall on October 1, 2013 and found the facility to be in unsatisfactory condition. He readdressed the concerns as reported at the October 2, 2013 SBC meeting.

Ms. Tanya Fields, Director of Management Services, stated that a request has been submitted to ISD for an estimate to repair the ceilings in the Special Handling Unit (SHU). Ms. Fields also stated that she will address the concerns of the Commission and advised the Commissioners to have a facilities maintenance operator to accompany them during their inspection to ensure proper reporting.

Sheriff Department

Chairperson Montaña inquired about the status of the implementation of the recommendations provided to the Sheriff's by the Citizens' Commission on Jail Violence. Captain Steven Bingini, Sheriff, informed the Commissioners that cameras have been installed in the Men's Central Jail and many other changes have been made. The greatest obstacle for the department is the continued increase in the population which is creating issues.

Captain Bingini also answered questions posed by the Commission.

Department of Children and Family services (DCFS)

Ms. Patricia-Bolanos Gonzalez, Children Services Administrator III, Out of Home Care Management Division, DCFS, reported the following:

19 Referrals from September 17 – October 15, 2013

- 3 - Sexual abuse
- 7 - Physical abuse
- 8 - General neglect
- 1 - Child at risk

9 Closed referrals

- 3 - General neglect, unfounded
- 3 – Physical abuse, unfounded
- 2 – Sexual abuse, 1 evaluated out, 1 inconclusive
- 1 – Child at risk, unfounded

She also reported on the number of youth that were Absent Without Leave (AWOL) during the following reporting periods:

- From September 16-30, 2013
 - 243
- From October 1-15, 2013
 - 319

Ms. Bolanos-Gonzalez informed the Commission that there are two homes on hold:

- Life Circles
- Hathaway Sycamore

Probation Department (PD)

Ms. Lisa Campbell-Motton, Director of Placement Permanency & Quality Assurance (PD), reported on the status of AWOLs for the month of September 2013 as follows:

- 124 AWOLS
 - 112 Youth Involved
 - 12 were repeat offenders
 - 48 Remain AWOL
 - 49 Returned to Group Home
 - 10 Juvenile Hall
 - 2 Home on Probation
 - 2 Camp
 - 1 Terminated

The following referrals were reported:

- **6 Child Abuse Referrals**
 - **1 Investigation**
 - **1 Substantiated**
 - **4 Pending**
- **6 Group Home Investigations**
 - **1 Substantiated**
 - **5 Pending**

Ms. Campbell-Motton also reported that Eggleston Youth Center is currently undergoing a probate case and as a result eight new properties were purchased. At least 24 youth will be relocated by the end of the month and the remaining youth in two weeks. Additionally, Ms. Campbell-Motton shared that a potential adoption is scheduled to take place on November 7, 2013.

Mr. Michael Varela, Director of Camp Gonzales, reported that Camp Gonzalez has been remolded and is scheduled to open in mid-November. Mr. Varela also stated that he will be moving to camp Kirby as the director.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

- 3. Chairperson's Report on various items for October 16, 2013. (13-4847)**

Chairperson Montaña shared the following Newspaper Articles:

Daily Breeze:

- **Compliant (October 10, 2013)**
- **County Force Trial Begins (October 10, 2013)**

Los Angeles Times:

- **Faring Worse Than Their Peers (October 14, 2013)**
- **A Chorus of help (October 14, 2013)**
- **The Mentally Ill in Our Jails (October 15, 2013)**

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

4. Treasurer's Report for October 16, 2013 (13-4849)

Vice Chairperson Bacio reported that the current bank statement balance of the Commission's Charitable Fund is \$715.96.

5. Staff Report on Correspondence Received, and Department Representative Reports for October 16, 2013. (13-4851)

No Report.

6. Review of Group Home Compliance Monitoring Audit Reports presented on October 16, 2013. (13-4853)

No report.

7. Commissioners' Reports on Group Home and/or Detention Facilities Inspections from October 10, 2013 to October 15, 2013. (13-4854)

During the reporting period, the following Group Homes/Facilities were reported as being in satisfactory conditions:

- **Chairperson Montañño and Commissioner Andrews visited Dream Home Care, Page 13, #4, on October 10, 2013.**
- **Commissioner Bigby visited Murrell's Farm Boys Home, Page 28, #1 on October 10, 2013.**
- **Commissioner Bigby visited Murrell's Farm Boys Home, Page 27, #4 on October 11, 2013.**
- **Commissioner Bigby visited Turmont Home for Boys (Girls), Page 41, #2 on October 11, 2013.**

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

Matters Not Posted

8. Matters not on the posted agenda, to be discussed and (if requested) referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action came to the attention of the Committee subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (13-4855)

There were no matters presented for a future agenda.

Public Comment

9. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of

interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (13-4856)

There were no members of the public present to address the Commission.

Adjournment

- 10.** Adjournment for the meeting of October 16, 2013. (13-4857)

There being no further business, Chairperson Montaña adjourned the meeting of October 16, 2013 at 11:36 a.m.